

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/500,141
Amendment filed April 5, 2006
Reply to OA dated January 11, 2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A powder inhalator comprising:

a housing;

a supply member for holding a powdered drug for a large number of doses and having a drug discharge aperture at its bottom surface;

a drug carrier, to which the powdered drug is supplied from the drug discharge aperture of the supply member, and having on its upper surface a measuring recess that has a volume equivalent to one dose of the drug; and

an operation member disposed so as to move freely back and forth, and operate the drug carrier;

the drug carrier moving in contact with the bottom surface of the supply member to carry the powdered drug loaded into the measuring recess from the position of the drug discharge aperture to an air inhalation channel,

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wherein the drug carrier is supported pivotably in the housing so that the measuring recess moves reciprocates in a circular manner, relative to the drug discharge aperture of the supply member, by pivoting the drug carrier.

Claim 2 (Original): The powder inhalator according to claim 1, wherein the measuring recess is located at a position between the center of the pivotal movement of the drug carrier and the point at which the operation member engages the drug carrier.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The powder inhalator according to claim 2, wherein the operation member is a pushbutton and the operation member is pressed to move the measuring recess into the air inhalation channel.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The powder inhalator according to claim 3, wherein electrical conductivity is imparted to the supply member, the drug carrier and the operation member, so as to leak static electricity.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The powder inhalator according to claim 4, wherein the measuring recess is a spherical concave shape and provided with a bottom.

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Claims 6-9 (Canceled).

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The powder inhalator according to claim 2, wherein electrical conductivity is imparted to the supply member, the drug carrier and the operation member, so as to leak static electricity.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The powder inhalator according to claim 10, wherein the measuring recess is a spherical concave shape and provided with a bottom.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The powder inhalator according to claim 2, wherein the measuring recess is a spherical concave shape and provided with a bottom.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The powder inhalator according to claim 3, wherein the measuring recess is a spherical concave shape and provided with a bottom.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The powder inhalator according to claim 1, wherein the operation member is a pushbutton and the operation member is pressed to move the measuring recess into the air inhalation channel.

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Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The powder inhalator according to claim 14, wherein electrical conductivity is imparted to the supply member, the drug carrier and the operation member, so as to leak static electricity.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The powder inhalator according to claim 15, wherein the measuring recess is a spherical concave shape and provided with a bottom.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The powder inhalator according to claim 14, wherein the measuring recess is a spherical concave shape and provided with a bottom.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): The powder inhalator according to claim 1, wherein electrical conductivity is imparted to the supply member, the drug carrier and the operation member, so as to leak static electricity.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The powder inhalator according to claim 18, wherein the measuring recess is a spherical concave shape and provided with a bottom.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The powder inhalator according to claim 1, wherein the measuring recess is a spherical concave shape and provided with a bottom.